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Unfortunately the floating vote of this county never gets soaked enough to sink.

The Hon. Edward Robb will retire to the life of a private citizen in a few days.

The floating vote is necessarily composed of light political material, yet it is often permitted to dictate our elections.

The Kansas state oil refinery bill is now a law. Such conduct on part of the people is the refinement of insult to the Standard Oil company.

When Democrats are given the fruits of a Republican victory how do the latter expect to hold the respect of their own party adherents?

The Russian Grand Duke Sergius was blown to pieces by an anarchist bomb last Friday. The whole Russian autocracy seems to be on the bum just now.

Although the Missouri senatorship still hangs fire, the Republican legislature is making creditable progress in correcting the sins of Democratic commission and omission.

A statute of the late Frances E. Willard, the great "uncrowned queen of purity and temperance" has just been unveiled in the national statutory hall in Washington. Up to date no exponent of the liquor traffic has been so honored.

The South American republics are going to learn that if they intend to hide behind Uncle Sam while making faces at foreign governments they have put themselves in a position to get a corrective slap now and then from their protector for their bad manners.

The United States is not yet ready for absorption by the trusts, in fact, there is a very agreeable prospect that the trusts may before long be absorbed by the United States. The power of the trusts lies in their money, the power of the people in their conscience.

A Democratic member of the House up at Jefferson City objected the other day to the Republicans passing any measure the Democrats did not like, and this after the latter party had taken special delight in rubbing it in on the Republicans for thirty years. Our Democratic friends don't like such doses when they have to swallow them.

The Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post says that all dreams of utopian equality must come to naught for the reason that man is but an animal. If this is true the religious teachings of 200 years fall to the ground. That man possesses the instincts of animal selfishness is true, but unlike animals of lower degree, he is capable of overcoming them if he will.

Kansas has undertaken to carry out an innovation in the shape of an oil refinery built and conducted by the state. Whether it will become a success will depend largely upon those to whom the people give the management of this public enterprise. If those in charge are going to make it the medium for selfish graft failure is already written across its face and the doctrine of public ownership will receive a serious setback.

Lieutenant Governor McKinley is a coming man in the Republican party of Missouri and he evidently proposes to keep himself in line for party regularity, since he opposed himself as a compromise candidate in the senatorial fight. McKinley might inject himself in this fight with a fair chance of capturing the prize, but his good sense tells him to hold himself aloof. He is right in line for the gubernatorial nomination three years hence, and his chances of election to that office are better than that of any other Republican in the state.

It is gratifying to us that our neighbor, the Independent, endorses certain sentiments we have expressed in our editorial columns

upon the social economic conditions of this country. The welfare and happiness of the masses is not the distinctive cause of any political party, but should be the inspiring cause of all parties. Popular opinion is largely shaped by the newspapers, and the subject of the disproportionate division of created wealth between capital and labor is one upon which public opinion cannot be too quickly brought up to the point of inaugurating corrective measures.

In her war with Japan Russia has already sacrificed between forty and fifty thousand officers and men killed in actual battle and more than that number who have died of disease or were invalided home, and all to satisfy the desire of a few men, who shape the policy of the Russian government, to extend the limits of territory over which the Czar shall have power. Russia could not, at the present rate she is populating her territory, overcrowd it in a thousand years, so her aggressions in the east have not even the excuse of the necessity of an outlet for her overpopulation. Here we have the sacrifice of a hundred thousand human beings, not including those who have fallen on the Japanese side, to serve a policy of selfish greed for the extension of power, and the Russian people have blindly walked into war's insatiable maw to this end.

In the fourth ward in St. Louis last Thursday while registration was going on for the spring municipal election there were instances where Democratic Indians rushed into the registration booths, presented pistols at the heads of the Republican judges to prevent their interference and walked away with the registration books. These things happened in a city now held by the Democratic papers there to be governed by a reform administration of a high order. Whatever Mayor Wells has done it is evident that no great effort has been put forth by him to suppress the Democratic thugs who have made the discharge of citizenship a terror to all who vote in opposition to their party. This reform! It looks more like supine truckling to lawlessness and brutality. Can a community be called well-governed where the pistol flourished in the hands of toughs and hoodlums is permitted to dominate over the free expression of public opinion. What are the sworn officers of the law doing in St. Louis? It is illegal to even carry a pistol, to draw one and thrust it in the face of another constitutes felonious assault, yet we may scan the news columns of the city papers closely without finding any reference to the arrest and punishment of those criminals. We believe the people of St. Louis are ready to hail with delight the return of the Republican party to power there, for, while its rule may not be of a most sublime character, it will at least insure the protection of the citizen in his rights regardless of his politics.

The bill to prohibit baseball games and kindred sports on the Sabbath day in Missouri is meeting with opposition that will probably prevent its passage by the legislature. Such a law could not be enforced anyway because of popular opinion against it. Innocent amusement in the way of recreation sports on Sunday is not detrimental to the morals of a community, and until the masses of the people are given more leisure for such pursuits Sunday will be the people's one holiday in the week, regardless of whatever legislation may be enacted to prevent them from making it so. The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, commenting upon the bill, says that to cut off such outdoor sports would have the tendency of driving people "to the saloon and the den where vice flourishes." Here we have two "evils" in contrast, which is the greater in detrimental influence upon the morals of the masses? The saloon and den of vice are associated in common, their influence for moral degradation are admitted without equivocation, yet they are allowed to flourish without

serious hindrance; the tendency of recreative sports, even if indulged in on Sunday, is not toward moral debasement. While we are legislating why not legislate recognized evils out of existence instead of sidling around them to get at something which is less, if at all, harmful. When there are no saloons and dens of vice for the people to be driven into we will be more in a position to undertake to elevate the moral tone of those who want to engage in a few harmless pleasures on the Sabbath.

To Attack Standard Oil.

President Roosevelt has instructed Commissioner Garfield to make an immediate and thorough investigation into the doings of the Standard Oil company, with especial reference to the situation in Kansas. This is an answer to the resolution passed by the House of Representatives requesting an investigation of the matter. Garfield is head of the bureau of corporations of the department of commerce and labor. All the resources of that department, aided, as far as possible, by the department of the interior and the department of justice, will be pressed into the service. The inquiry will be thorough and comprehensive enough to meet the demands of the President and the people.

The fight between the state of Kansas and the Standard Oil company thus will serve to enlighten the public as to some of the operations of that colossal corporation. The Standard's conquering career has been running several decades. It is getting more and more powerful and autocratic. Not only does it control the market in the thing in which it primarily deals, and which has given the combine its specific name, but it dabbles in copper, steel and other things, and is branching into railway operations and control. Frenzied Lawson, in some of his frantic exposures of himself and others, tells about some of the Standard's operations in United States Steel and Anaconda Copper, and as Lawson, consciously or unconsciously, commits himself also, the public will be apt to believe that some of the things he tells about the Standard are true.

In this investigation by the government the truth will be brought out, and if anything is revealed on which a case can be made the Standard will have to submit to the ordeal which has overthrown the Northern Securities company and the beef trust. President Roosevelt is thoroughly aroused in this matter. The people are behind him, and he knows it, and the Standard knows it. The investigation which has been ordered by the President will attract not only general attention throughout the United States, but will be followed with interest by the entire world. The Standard Oil company is known all over the globe, but some trouble may be just ahead of it which will force it to modify its extortion and dilute a little of its autocracy.—Globe Democrat.

A Corn-Gospel Train.

Reference has already been made in these columns to the work done by Prof. P. G. Holden in Iowa.

By adopting Prof. Holden's methods the corn crop of Iowa increased in value by several millions in 1904. This year the same experiment will be made in Missouri.

"Corn-gospel trains" will traverse the state with Prof. Holden on board. He will explain his methods to the farmers along the lines and answer questions calculated to draw out information on this most important subject.

What was done in Iowa can be done in Missouri. If the corn value was increased by \$10,000,000 in that state, it can be increased that much in Missouri. Farmers will find it to their interest to meet this corn gospel train at the stations where it stops and hear what Prof. Holden has to say.—Post-Dispatch.

GET THE COUNTY NEWS—The Journal, \$1 per year.

Railroad Wants Franchise.

An application was made to the county court at Clayton last week for a franchise for a railroad from South St. Louis through the county, crossing the Meramec river at Fenton. It is said that it is the intention of the promoters to build to Bismarck and there connect with the Southern Missouri, a road that runs through the coal fields of Southern Illinois, and use it as a coal road.

The Big River construction company, of which A. T. Smith of St. Louis is the president, is the applicant. It is stated that Boston capital is behind this project, the chief promoter having about three million capital for this purpose. Interests said to be identical with those of the construction company now own 3,000 acres of coal land in Illinois.

Permission is sought by the applicant to construct a single or double track railroad through St. Louis county, but nothing in the petition indicates the motive power to be used. It is thought, however, electricity will be used between St. Louis and Morse Mill and steam power between that point and Bismarck. Besides the business of hauling coal, the road will be used as a passenger and freight line for a large territory now without such facilities, and it would also tap the lead belt of southeast Missouri.

This line is doubtless going to be built shortly, and it is thought it will follow the survey made by a projected line through the south part of De Soto several years ago, which did not materialize.—De Soto Press.

Things Worth Thinking About.

The man who puts off generally gets put off.

No man is so rich he can afford to lose a friend.

Think straight and you cannot be crooked.

Only he who keeps his honor can never be discredited.

The most stones are thrown at the tree with the ripest fruit.

The word "impossible" should not be in anyone's dictionary.

Every moment is the right moment for the man who has pluck.

Any fish can swim down stream, but it takes a live one to swim up.

A wise man doesn't wait for opportunity to come along; he goes after it.

The best you have ever done is not good enough to be your ideal for the future.

The accident of energy has made more millionaires than the accident of birth.

The moment a man is satisfied with himself everybody else is dissatisfied with him.

There is nothing so strong or safe in any emergency of life as the simple truth.

It not what your grandfather did before the war—it's "Can you make good today?"

It's a good deal easier to sit up straight in church than it is to walk upright in the world.

The ability to turn stumbling blocks into stepping stones is often worth more in a pinch than a fat purse.

Shirley.

Carson Harmon, who has been very sick, is slowly improving.

Miss Lillian Blount is also very sick at this writing.

The oyster supper given by Mr. Tullock last Friday night was well attended. All report having a nice time.

Tom Cloutons of Potosi was in our locality Friday night.

A. B. Gibson of Tola, Iron county, visited his parents here last week.

Game had better hide out, as Wash Gibson has got a new shotgun.

"Uncle" Laben Eye says the nearest way to Jonathan Smith's is to go by the saw mill.

Miss Belle Mason visited Pearl Coleman Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. S. V. Eye visited her sister, Mrs. Catherine Gibson, one day last week.

S. V. Eye and Jake Allen are prospecting on Henry Allen's land.

Amrose Phares and family have moved to J. C. Smith's farm, near Latty.

Harry Parker made a flying trip to Shirley Thursday.

J. H. Pettigrew is visiting his daughter, Mrs. Robert Milsap, of Latty.

BLUEBELL.

Sunlight.

[Too late for last week.]

Cold weather still continues.

Mrs. W. F. Wells is on the sick list.

Mr. George Starkey and wife are visiting relatives at Brazil.

W. W. Turner killed his circus cat Saturday.

Miss Essie Puckett is on the sick list.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cole of Quaker were visiting relatives near Sunlight Thursday and Friday.

Edgar Turner has bought a fine bunch of hogs from Judge Buckley.

Miss Lottie Puckett was the guest of Miss Grace Turner last week.

Mr. Walter Puckett and wife of St. Louis are visiting friends and relatives here.

Dr. Smith of Belgrade was seen on our streets last week.

Frank Larmer made a flying trip to Belgrade Thursday.

H. E. Turner made a quick trip to Bonne Terre last week.

Miss Letha Evans of St. Louis is visiting her sister, Mr. Thos. Ramsey.

Obie Dickey has purchased a fine span of Norman horses. Hurrah for Obie!

Mr. and Mrs. George Dickey of Quaker were seen on our streets Saturday.

Mr. U. S. Ramsey, our well-known merchant, shipped 400 rabbits last Thursday.

JOHN JOEL AND JIM PEARLE.

W. W. Turner and son, Charley, visited relatives at Belgrade last Friday.

Miss Eura Horton and Ernest Horton were the guests of Mrs. U. S. Ramsey Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Starkey left here last week for Herculaneum.

Mr. Dave Hunkstep and wife are both on the sick list.

Mr. P. T. Ramsey, who has been sojourning in St. Louis for a year or two, will return to his farm here the first of March.

JOHNIE.

Tiff.

Our new town, Tiff, making rapid progress. The post office here is now established and mail being received and dispatched. William Paul is postmaster and is fast becoming proficient in his new duties.

Miss Fannie Boyer visited relatives at Roca Sunday last.

The Misses Essie Roderick and Libbie Boyer visited Mrs. S. D. Boyer the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Boyer and little daughter, Bertha, visited his brother, Eddie Boyer of Bellefontaine last Sunday.

Mr. Amada Polite received a telegram from his son William Polite of Webster Groves, Mo., Monday, stating the latter's wife died there that morning. S. D. B.

Ironedale.

By ROBERT RAMSEY, JR.

John Terrell is busy dating up more jobs.

P. A. Bowyer of De Soto is in Ironedale this week on business.

Chris Mitner and his wife are both very sick at this writing.

Rev. Everett Maynard preached an interesting sermon to a large congregation here last Sunday.

J. I. Robinson and wife returned last Wednesday from an extended visit to relatives in Indiana.

Wm. Sago has opened a jewelry shop in Jordan's drug store.

County Assessor Williams of Caledonia shipped a fine lot of dressed poultry from here this week.

Wiley O'Neal has purchased the Collins property on High street in Ironedale.

"Uncle" Steve Fortune was in town this week and reports that he is not nearly so well as the Gazette stated.

J. C. O'Neil of this place was accidentally thrown from a delivery wagon one day recently and quite severely bruised.

"Uncle" Joe Bennett died at his home near here last Wednesday, as the result of an illness that had been sapping his life for the past two years, the last six weeks of his life he was confined to his bed entirely. He was 70 years of age. He leaves a wife and three sons, the three daughters, J. F. Bennett of Caledonia, is a brother of the deceased. His remains were interred in the cemetery at Hope, well, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. J. B. Robinson. "Uncle" Joe, as he was called by all his friends, lived an exemplary life and was always going about doing good among his neighbors. He had a steadfast belief in the Christian faith, and the reward that comes to such he has now inherited.

The people of this county are now offered a Chicago daily for \$1 a year. The Chicago Daily Review is sent to subscribers for \$1 a year, 75 cents for six months, 50 cents for three months and stopped when the time is out. The Daily Review is a delightful family paper with all the news of the day condensed into four pages, hence the low price. It is printed in large, clear type, easily read by young and old, and publishes a brilliant feature by a popular author every day, besides much good poetry and interesting department devoted to science and invention, art, literature, music, education, hygiene, home management, fashions, humor, sports and recreations, travels, matters of interest to women and children, etc. It is a clean family paper and admits nothing to its readers or advertising columns that cannot be read aloud in the family circle. The Daily Review has subscribers in every State in the Union and every country and township in this and surrounding states. It is just the daily paper for busy farmers and business men, professional men and their families. Subscribe for the Daily Review to-day. Send one dollar to Chicago Review Co., Room 295, No. 1222 Washington Ave., Chicago, Ill., and receive this fine paper every day except Sunday for a whole year.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that letters of administration upon the estate of Augusta Jaeschke, deceased, have been granted to me by the Probate Court, bearing date the 4th day of January, 1905. All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within one year from the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate; and if said claims be not exhibited within two years from the date of said letters, they will be forever barred.

RUDOLPH JAESCHKE,
Administrator estate Augusta Jaeschke, deceased.

The Journal would like to have an active correspondent at every town and postoffice in the county. Send us the news of your community.

FINAL SETTLEMENT NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given to all creditors and others interested in the estate of Thos. House, deceased, that the undersigned executor of said estate intends to make a final settlement thereof, at the next term of the Probate Court of the county of Washington, to be held at the court house in the city of Potosi on the second Monday of May, 1905.

T. T. HORSE,
Executor of Thos. House, deceased.

THE HUSBAND'S JUDGMENT BEST.

Husband and wife often disagree about some matter that concerns each other and frequently the husband finds that his wife's judgment is the best. The case of Mr. John W. Young of Lincoln, Ill., however, is an exception, he says: "My wife and I both had a severe cold and we decided to get some kind of medicine. I bought myself a bottle of Hart's Honey and Hoarhound and, taking it as directed, was well in a short time. She wanted another kind and with the result that she still has a bad cough. I advised her to take Hart's Honey and Hoarhound and think she will have to do so if she gets well this winter." Hart's Honey and Hoarhound is sold by F. X. Teasdale, Potosi, and J. L. Eason, Belgrade, in 25c, 50c and \$1.00 bottles.

Bogus War Trophies.

The people of Crewe, England, are indignant at the war office because of some guns which were recently sent by the town and set up in a public square trophies. It has been found that the guns have never been outside of England.

The Double Coccoa.

The latest breeding freak is the double-cocoa race of silk worms, which has been bred in Japan.

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